

## House Resolution 653

By: Representatives Burns of the 157<sup>th</sup>, Carter of the 159<sup>th</sup>, Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>, and McCall of the 30<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Mrs. Mary Olive Butler Ratchford; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens  
3 with the passing of Mrs. Mary Olive Butler Ratchford on February 21, 2009; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Mrs. Ratchford was born on November 16, 1932, in Savannah, Georgia, a  
5 beloved daughter of Joe and Glenne Butler; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Mrs. Ratchford was united in love and marriage to Neil Wilkins Ratchford, and  
7 the two were blessed with four children, Neil, Warren, Joseph, and Sue Nell; and
- 8 WHEREAS, the Ratchfords ran a successful family sausage business in Guyton, Georgia,  
9 and Mrs. Ratchford was well known for greeting customers with a dynamic and bright smile  
10 and for her keen business sense; and
- 11 WHEREAS, a woman of a deep and abiding faith, Mrs. Ratchford was an active member of  
12 Guyton United Methodist Church, where she served as a Sunday school teacher; and
- 13 WHEREAS, she was a proud and shining example of enduring love and affection, and her  
14 great pride and joy were her two grandchildren, Ryan and John; and
- 15 WHEREAS, she was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation  
16 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness, and, by the example she made of her life,  
17 she made this world a better place in which to live; and
- 18 WHEREAS, all who had the privilege of knowing Mrs. Ratchford join her family in  
19 mourning their loss and hold tight the memories of wonderful times shared with her.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
21 this body hereby joins in honoring the life and memory of Mrs. Mary Olive Butler Ratchford  
22 and expressing its appreciation of her many contributions to her community and family.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
24 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mrs. Mary  
25 Olive Butler Ratchford.